

REMARKS

Reconsideration and further examination of the subject patent application in light of the present Amendment and Remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12, 36-39 and 54-62 are currently pending in the application. Claims 13-35 and 40-53 have been withdrawn. Claims 1-12 and 36-39 stand rejected. Claims 54-62 have been allowed.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Pat. No. 5,896,452 to Yip et al. in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,226,331 to Gambuzza. Claims 36-39 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Yip et al. in view of Gambuzza and U.S. Pat. No. 6,324,167 to Starr.

In response, claims 1-12 and 36-39 have been cancelled.

Closing Remarks

For the foregoing reasons, applicant submits that the subject application is in condition for allowance and earnestly solicits an early Notice of Allowance. Should the Primary Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, the Primary Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the below-listed number.

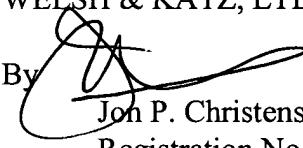
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee which may be required for this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.18, including but not limited to the issue fee, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-0920. Should no proper amount be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal, or

even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 23-0920. A duplicate copy of this sheet(s) is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.

By



Jon P. Christensen
Registration No. 34,137

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.
120 South Riverside Plaza
22nd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 655-1500
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